Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know from the honourable member whether Government have verified the maximum distance that a tyre used by the Transport Department can run?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : No, Sir.

Rule re security for sanctioning English Middle and High Schools.

87. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have recently made any rule or passed any order with regard to security in the matter of sanctioning English Middle and High Schools ;

(*b*) what the order or rule is ;

(*c*) what the order or rule was previously ;

(*d*) the reason for the change in the rule ;

(*e*) the object, purpose and aim that is meant to be gained or achieved by the change ; and

(*f*) whether the Government are granting concessions in the matter of security in the case of English Middle and High Schools in the country parts of Travancore ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) That a cash deposit, to be supplemented by annual contribution, should be invested in the Savings Bank in the case of newly sanctioned schools, the total deposit for English Middle Schools being Rs. 2,000 and that for the English High Schools Rs. 5,000.

(*c*) That a financial guarantee on an 8 anna stamp paper should be given.

(*d*) & (*e*) As a safeguard for the stability of the institutions and their compliance with departmental orders—*vide* Rule 134 of the Education Code.

(*f*) No.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : May I know whether Government have considered the question whether such a condition for security will not affect the spread of education, especially in the rural and backward areas ?

Mr. A Gopala Menon : That question has not been raised hitherto.

Mr. N. V Chacko : May I know whether there is a grievance that Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5000 is penal and very high ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : Sir, that is a figure that has to be made up in course of time. It is not an amount which has to be deposited in a year or two.

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Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know whether the respective amounts mentioned here are permanent deposits or whether money may be drawn out of them for purposes connected with the schools?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : Money can be drawn out of them and reimbursed later on.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : May I know whether there is any variation in the amount of the deposits in the case of schools which have permanent buildings and in the case of schools which have only temporary sheds?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : Sir, that has not been brought to the notice of the Department.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagappalli Kartigappalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*) : May I know whether in view of the financial depression alround the Government will be pleased to consider the question of reducing the deposits required?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon : No objection has been raised so far in regard to the amount prescribed.

Increasing the productivity of the soil.

88. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the total amount of yield of paddy in Travancore per year at present ;

(*b*) whether the yield cannot be increased by increasing the productivity of the soil ;

(*c*) whether any definite action is taken to increase the productive capacity of the soil to its maximum ; and

(*d*) the approximate period within which the productivity of the soil can be increased to its maximum?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*) : (*a*) No statistics are available about the quantity of paddy produced in the State from time to time. A rough estimate of the production alone can therefore be made. On an average the paddy lands in Travancore yield 75 *paras* or 15 cwts. of grain per acre and as the area under cultivation was 6,90,226 according to the latest statistics, the yield in the State may be roughly estimated at 10 million cwts.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) This will depend upon the kind of soil, climatic conditions prevailing and the extent to and the speed with which the improved methods are followed.

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